

*Preserving America's Heritage*

# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUDGET JUSTIFICATION FY 2016

February 2015

An independent federal agency, the ACHP promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. It also provides a forum for influencing federal activities, programs, and policies that affect historic properties. The ACHP promotes historic preservation to foster the understanding of the nation's heritage and the contribution that historic preservation can make to contemporary communities and their economic and social well-being.

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, of Sacramento, California, is chairman of the 23-member council, which is served by a professional staff with offices in Washington, D.C. For more information about the ACHP, contact:

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
401 F Street NW, Suite 308  
Washington, D.C. 20001 -2637  
Phone: 202-517-0200

Web sites: [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov) and [www.preserveamerica.gov](http://www.preserveamerica.gov)  
On Twitter @usachp and Facebook Preservation-The Next Generation

# **ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION BUDGET JUSTIFICATION, FY 2016**

## **FY 2016 Request**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation requests  
\$6,080,000 and 36 FTE

## **SUMMARY**

### **FY 2016 Direction and Request**

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) will continue to pursue its major program directions:

- Providing timely expert advice to the President, the Congress, and the executive branch on policies and programs affecting historic preservation;
- Managing the federal historic preservation review process under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in an efficient manner that fully engages stakeholders and the public;
- Promoting historic preservation as a strategy for addressing national priorities such as infrastructure improvement, climate change adaptation, energy conservation, community revitalization and livability, sustainable design, transportation improvements, disaster recovery, public property management, and economic development;
- Working with partners to raise awareness about the importance of historic preservation, promoting the value and relevance of history and culture and the benefits of historic preservation in contemporary society while striving to build a more inclusive preservation program; and
- Providing the training, guidance, and other tools necessary to address these needs.

This request for FY 2016 of \$6,080,000 represents a 2 percent reduction (\$124,000) from the FY 2015 request of \$6,204,000. Due to cost efficiencies implemented in FY 2014 and FY 2015, a 2 percent reduction from FY 2015 will be accommodated within existing ACHP programs. This budget request commits the ACHP to addressing the highest priorities contained in the final cycle of its Six-Year Strategic Plan adopted in 2011, which was reviewed in the last quarter of FY 2014 and modified slightly early in FY 2015, and maintaining staffing at FY 2014 levels.

Historic preservation contributes significantly to employment opportunity, enhanced investment, and economic vitality throughout the nation. Encouraging the use of historic preservation tools to promote job creation, economic development, heritage tourism, renewable energy development, infrastructure improvement, climate change adaptation, and community sustainability and resilience will continue to be priority activities for FY 2016. Developing efficiencies for the Section 106 review of federal projects designed to put Americans back to work, and making environmental reviews for infrastructure projects and other critical priorities more efficient through continuing better coordination among Section 106, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and other environmental statutes, will be high priorities. The ACHP will pursue its distance learning and training, guidance, and assistance priorities through electronic media, and use other cost-effective ways to meet many of the needs of its customers, partners, and the American public. The ACHP will stay relevant and accessible with its use of online platforms and will

improve and enhance its Web capabilities to support more effective two-way communication between the agency and stakeholders as well as with the public.

In addition, the ACHP will explore uses of social media as the agency works to connect with an increasingly diverse and technically sophisticated public. The ACHP will also advise the Administration and the Congress on legislation that affects historic preservation interests or that can use preservation tools to achieve other national priorities, and offer its expertise on policy initiatives that could benefit from having a cultural heritage stewardship or heritage education component. As part of that policy effort as well as a component of its public outreach activities, the ACHP will focus portions of its time on building a more inclusive preservation program, working with Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations (NHOs), and other indigenous peoples, and participating in planning and implementation related to the 50th anniversary of the NHPA in 2016.

Since 2012, the ACHP has played a key role in Administration efforts on infrastructure, providing policy recommendations and guidance to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) as a member of the Steering Committee that implements the requirements of Executive Order 13604, "Improving Performance of Federal Permitting and Review of Infrastructure Projects," and as a member on CEQ's Rapid Response Teams for Transmission and Transportation. As a member of this Steering Committee, the ACHP is an essential participant in implementing the requirements of related Presidential Memoranda, including "Modernizing Federal Infrastructure Review and Permitting Regulations, Policies, and Procedures" and "Transforming our Nation's Electric Grid Through Improved Siting, Permitting, and Review." These efforts are resulting in significant efficiencies and program improvements relating to Section 106 reviews, including the joint issuance of a handbook with CEQ on integrating NEPA and Section 106 reviews

([http://www.achp.gov/docs/NEPA\\_NHPA\\_Section\\_106\\_Handbook\\_Mar2013.pdf](http://www.achp.gov/docs/NEPA_NHPA_Section_106_Handbook_Mar2013.pdf)), as well as a Section 106 toolkit (<http://www.achp.gov/apptoolkit.html>) for applicants for federal assistance and permits.

Other initiatives include the development of guidance on electronic communication, preparing agreement documents, and educating applicants about the requirements of Section 106, all of which have been issued or will be issued in FY 2015. The FY 2016 request will support staffing dedicated to meeting the increasing demands of these initiatives. For example, a senior staff member will be able to focus on major Section 106 policy issues, represent the ACHP on various interagency work groups, and oversee the development of program improvements at the ACHP including educating and training stakeholders on the use of the NEPA/Section 106 handbook.

The ACHP has also been pursuing a growing number of policy initiatives to address critical national preservation issues: rightsizing in cities across America, disaster recovery, post office closures, broadband development, and the modernization of railroads and other transportation systems, to name a few. The 2 percent reduction request maintains staffing to work on developing sensible approaches to meet the historic preservation review challenges associated with these issues. As a case in point, in the wake of Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 and the ensuing recovery efforts, the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act (SRIA) of 2013 directed the President to establish an expedited and unified interagency federal review process by July 29, 2014. A steering committee comprised of CEQ, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the ACHP developed and submitted this review process to the President in accordance with SRIA, and coordinates with a broader group of federal agencies to improve the delivery of post-disaster recovery assistance. This unified federal review process will expedite approvals and release of federal funding to applicants as they recover from disasters and emergency situations.

Continued funding for such staffing also offsets the termination of some interagency partnerships. The ACHP has the authority to enter into reimbursable agreements with other federal agencies, whereby a

staff position or staff services to assist the agency with historic preservation program improvement tasks along with travel and overhead are funded by that agency. The ACHP has maintained six such partnerships in recent years (Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), FEMA, General Services Administration (GSA), Department of Veterans Affairs, and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and added one with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in early FY 2015. Due to sponsoring agency budget reductions or shifts in mission priorities, the ACHP has lost critical partnership positions with the Army and the Department of Energy in the last three years. Overall, though, for FY 2016, the ACHP is optimistic that the remainder of the existing partnership agreements will be continued and the requested resources will fill the remaining need.

Supporting its efforts in the preceding areas, the ACHP will further its training efforts in FY 2016, primarily in the distance learning area, recognizing that existing budget and travel restrictions in other agencies are increasingly impacting participation in onsite training opportunities. Distance learning is lower in overall cost to both the ACHP and participants, although it does require some up-front development cost. Introduced in FY 2013, the ACHP's Web-based training continues to grow in popularity, and is anticipated to reach 1,500 participants in FY 2015 and an even larger number in FY 2016. On-demand training planned for release in FY 2015 will be expanded with further offerings in FY 2016.

It will be necessary to work on providing training and outreach to federal officials; NEPA and Section 106 practitioners; tribal, state, and local governments; and the public regarding the NEPA/Section 106 handbook to realize the maximum benefits of aligning these two reviews. Continuation of funding first provided in FY 2014 is therefore requested to educate State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, the key players in applying the techniques in the handbook, as well as for webinars and onsite training directed at federal officials and applicants for federal assistance and permits. These funds will also continue to facilitate ACHP participation in regional meetings and professional conferences to educate stakeholders about the opportunities to align these reviews.

Providing information and access to technical and other assistance online assumes increasing importance. The ACHP's online efforts, including the Web site, e-communications, and social media outlets, provide many benefits for the American public, federal partners, and the agency. The ACHP recognizes the importance of a broad range of strategies for communication, and is aware that online communication and social media allow it to provide more transparent government activities while supporting efforts to reach more diverse constituencies. The FY 2014 request included funding to make the improvements necessary for modern online communications, allowing the ACHP to work toward minimizing the need for printed publications, to institutionalize social media activity, and to complete creation of an improved Web site with interactive capabilities as well as a platform to support "e-106," an electronically-based communication and case management system for Section 106. Those Web improvements are moving forward and should be completed in FY 2015, so the estimate at the FY 2016 level includes some modest funds to be able to use and maintain the Web site with a staff-dependent content management system.

Engaging Indian tribes and NHOs in the national historic preservation program, particularly the Section 106 process, has taken on much greater importance in recent years, as large energy development and transmission projects impact traditional cultural properties on an unprecedented scale. ACHP initiatives, including the Traditional Cultural Landscapes Action Plan, the interagency Sacred Sites Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan, and the ACHP plan for support of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, will all advance that goal. The ACHP's Office of Native American Affairs, brought back up to its authorized level of three FTEs in FY 2014, will continue at that level in FY 2016 under the 2 percent reduction.

The ACHP will accommodate a 2 percent reduction (\$124,000) for FY 2016 within the staffing level approved in FY 2014. With increased personnel costs and certain telecommunications expenditures when compared to FY 2015 (see Figure 4), in FY 2016 the ACHP will find cost savings by managing travel costs, reducing contract services, and minimizing equipment purchases. With its relocation to the National Building Museum done, the ACHP's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure improvement program has been completed. This has greatly enhanced the ability to conduct meetings by teleconference and videoconference and will reduce the reliance on certain contract services, as well as reducing the need for equipment purchases.

## Budgetary History

The enacted FY 2015 budget request for the ACHP is \$6,204,000, the amount of the final appropriation in the full-year continuing resolution. Figure 1 shows the recent funding background for comparison.

**Figure 1. Budgetary History, FY 2012-FY 2016**  
(in thousands of dollars)

	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
President's Budget	6,108	7,023*	6,531	6,204	6,080
Initial Appropriation	6,108	7,023	6,531	6,204	--
Appropriation Adjustment	-9.8	-320.8	--	--	--
Budget Authority	6,098	6,702**	6,531	6,204	--
FTEs	36	34	36	36	36

\*President's budget included a one-time, no-year appropriation of \$1.3M for relocation expenses. President's Budget for annual appropriation was \$5.723M.

\*\*Final budget authority for annual appropriation was \$5.462M.

## Budget Request

The ACHP budget estimate for FY 2016 is \$6,080,000 (2 percent reduction) with 36 FTEs.

**Figure 2. Appropriation and Authorization Language**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Appropriation Language</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES</p> <p>For necessary expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Public Law 89-665, as amended), [\$6,204,000]* \$6,080,000</p> <p><i>* Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 [Public Law 113-235]</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Authorization Language</b></p> <p>There are authorized to be such amounts as may be necessary to carry out this title.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>National Historic Preservation Act Amendments Act of 2006 [Public Law 109-453]</i></p>

# **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

## **Mission and Authorities**

The ACHP was established by the NHPA (54 U.S.C. 304101). The NHPA charges the ACHP with advising the President and the Congress on historic preservation matters and entrusts the ACHP with the unique mission of advancing historic preservation within the federal government and being a leader in the national historic preservation program. In FY 2011, the ACHP revised and adopted the following mission statement:

*The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy.*

The ACHP's authority and responsibilities are principally derived from the NHPA. General duties of the ACHP are detailed in Section 202 (54 U.S.C. 304102) and include the following:

- Advising the President and the Congress on matters relating to historic preservation;
- Encouraging public interest and participation in historic preservation;
- Recommending policy and tax studies as they affect historic preservation;
- Advising state and local governments on historic preservation legislation;
- Encouraging training and education in historic preservation;
- Reviewing federal policies and programs and recommending improvements; and
- Informing and educating others about the ACHP's activities.

Under Section 106 of the NHPA, the ACHP reviews federal actions affecting historic properties to ensure historic preservation needs are balanced with federal project requirements. The ACHP achieves this balance through the Section 106 review process, which applies whenever a federal action has the potential to impact historic properties.

## **ACHP Membership**

The ACHP has 23 statutorily designated members, including the chairman who heads the agency, and seven observers who have been invited to participate in the work of the ACHP (See Figure 5). The ACHP members address policy issues, direct program initiatives, and make recommendations regarding historic preservation to the President, Congress, and heads of other federal agencies.

Council members pursue ACHP activities both collectively and individually. The ACHP is organized into an Executive Committee and four program committees: Federal Agency Programs; Preservation Initiatives; Communications, Education, and Outreach; and Native American Affairs. Member task forces and committees are also formed to pursue specific needs such as policy development or regulatory reform oversight.

## **ACHP Staff**

ACHP staff members, housed in Washington, D.C., carry out the day-to-day work of the ACHP and provide all support services for council members. The executive director supervises all staff components.

**Figure 3. Staff Organization (Actual) and Proposed, FY 2013-2016**

Function	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Executive Director	1	1	1	1
Office of Native American Affairs	3	3	3	3
Office of General Counsel	1	2	2	2
Office of Administration	7	7	7	7
Office of Preservation Initiatives	3	3	3	3
Office of Federal Agency Programs	15	16	16	16
Office of Communications, Education, and Outreach	4	4	4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>

**The Executive Director** has senior management responsibility for all staff organizational units and reports to the chairman.

**Office of General Counsel** provides legal advice and analyses, reviews and manages Freedom of Information Act requests, and oversees the agency ethics program.

**Office of Native American Affairs** advises the ACHP leadership and staff on policy and program matters related to Native American issues, and offers technical assistance and outreach for tribal and NHO consultation under the Section 106 review process.

**Office of Preservation Initiatives** analyzes legislation, develops policy recommendations, oversees special studies and reports, and implements programs related to national preservation benefits such as community development, economic impacts, sustainability, and tourism.

**Office of Federal Agency Programs** conducts Section 106 reviews, develops and implements program improvement initiatives, provides technical assistance and guidance for Section 106 users, and works to improve federal agency and stakeholder understanding of Section 106. It also develops and administers the ACHP's training program, including delivery of the two-day ACHP course, "The Section 106 Essentials," the one-day "Advanced Section 106 Seminar," and distance learning initiatives.

**Office of Communications, Education, and Outreach** creates and conveys the ACHP's message to partners, stakeholders, and the general public via print and electronic media, meets information requests, handles media relations, and manages ACHP outreach, awards, and publications.



**Office of Administration** oversees a full range of administrative, personnel, procurement, space planning, information technology, budget, and fiscal services and coordinates related services provided by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and GSA on a reimbursable basis. The office also provides administrative and clerical support to ACHP leadership and the executive director.

## **ACHP PROGRAM PRIORITIES and EFFECTS OF BUDGET REQUEST**

The major program emphases for FY 2016 outlined below are derived from the ACHP's Six-Year Strategic Plan, adopted in January 2011 and reviewed and updated in late FY 2014/early FY 2015.

The ACHP will work with federal agencies, State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and other stakeholders to improve the efficiency of the historic preservation program. Management of the federal historic preservation review process, mandated by Section 106 of the NHPA, has long been a core mission of the ACHP. The ACHP anticipates its involvement in individual cases will continue to focus on the efficient review of high-priority economic recovery, infrastructure development, and energy-related projects, including alternative and traditional energy production as well as associated transmission facilities. Emphasis remains on early consideration of historic resource impacts and effective engagement of stakeholders to ensure outcomes that properly balance development and preservation issues. The development of programmatic Section 106 alternatives, which provide long-term savings and efficiencies for federal agencies, will focus on the priority areas noted above and include efforts that are supported by the requesting agency.

Section 106 training remains a critical component of an effective historic preservation review process and is consequently a major focus of the ACHP's work. Special emphasis will be placed on expanding the ACHP's Web-based distance learning program (including online courses and webinars) in order to better reach audiences who cannot participate in on-site courses, although budget issues at other agencies may limit the ability of federal agency personnel to participate regularly and actively.

The ACHP is promoting historic preservation as a means to advance Administration policies for infrastructure improvement, climate change adaptation, energy conservation, community livability, broadband installation, surface transportation, sustainable design, and economic development. It will also continue to advocate heritage tourism and heritage education as part of urban and rural development through its national network of 895 Preserve America Communities and 43 Preserve America Steward volunteer organizations and programs, as well as related public and private partners. ACHP participation in initiatives such as the National Travel and Tourism Strategy (led by the Departments of Commerce and the Interior) and the Partners in Tourism coalition will be maintained.

Woven throughout these topical areas will be the ACHP's ongoing commitment to do a better job of engaging and involving a broad range of diverse constituencies in the national historic preservation program. Building on and continuing its traditional focus on the participation of Indian tribes and NHOs, the ACHP will strive to reach other constituencies often underserved by and underrepresented in the federal historic preservation program. The ACHP will work with its members and preservation partners to ensure that the national program reaches and serves the diverse needs of all Americans, notably in the context of the 50th anniversary of the NHPA, which will occur in 2016.

Finally, the ACHP will invest staff and other resources in a revamped ACHP Web site to the extent feasible. The redesigned Web site will rely completely on staff-generated content development and content management work. The Web site, along with evolving ACHP social media tools as staff resources

allow, will be central to many aspects of the ACHP's activities and outreach efforts. The result will be a significant improvement in customer service and historic preservation information, offering greater access for stakeholders and the public, and bringing greater efficiencies to the Section 106 process.

## **2016 Program Priorities and Proposed Activity Highlights**

This section sets forth the ACHP's projected activities for FY 2015 and FY 2016. The FY 2015 projections assume funding levels comparable to FY 2014 through at least the partial year continuing resolution.

**Communicate the value of historic preservation and advance the policies and goals laid out in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as a federal government priority and an instrument of national policy.**

In 2015:

- Support and contribute to the development and implementation of Administration policies and programs as an advocate for historic preservation, particularly funding for preservation, tax reform, transportation and energy policy, sustainability, and engaging diverse communities in preservation.
- Provide analysis and advice on high-priority legislation in the 114th Congress, particularly historic preservation tax credits and other tax reform initiatives, amendments to the NHPA, federal property disposal, surface transportation reauthorization, and National Heritage Areas legislation.
- Work with other preservation organizations and stakeholders to plan and carry out activities begun in FY 2013 for the NHPA 50th anniversary commemoration in 2016.
- Ensure the ACHP has the fundamental online structure to support communications with the American public and other federal agencies via its Web site and social media, while making certain that the information provided serves the public interest and is authoritative, comprehensive, understandable, and accessible.
- Maintain support and encouragement for the Preserve America program to highlight the value of preservation in local communities as well as the accomplishments of the program to Congress; the executive branch; state, tribal, and local governments; and the public.

In 2016:

- Participate in new Administration initiatives as the voice for historic preservation.
- Continue to provide analysis and advice focused on the highest-priority legislation with consequences for historic preservation in the Congress.
- Remain involved in the NHPA commemoration and participate in ACHP-specific tasks as part of preservation partner implementation for marking the 50th anniversary of the NHPA, including addressing policy goals and program needs for the future, and support related efforts undertaken by the National Park Service (NPS) and others in observance of the 2016 NPS centennial.
- Manage and provide content for the updated ACHP Web sites and expand the use of the ACHP's electronic social media tools.

**Promote historic preservation as a tool to help achieve energy efficiency, adapt to climate change, support sustainable communities, and as a strategy to help cities and other communities “right-size” building stock and infrastructure.**

In 2015:

- Track sustainability issues relevant to historic preservation and Section 106 review, promote historic preservation in sustainability and other environmental and energy efficiency initiatives, and engage in discussions about climate change adaptation as it relates to protection and enhancement of historic resources.
- Participate in the Climate Change Council co-chaired by CEQ and the White House, and provide feedback on policy issues relevant to historic preservation.
- Incorporate relevant sustainability information and guidance on the ACHP’s Web site.
- Collaborate with CEQ and other executive branch agencies on the implementation of E.O. 13514 as it relates to federal historic buildings and agency strategic sustainability plans.
- Carry out the ACHP responsibilities contained in the rightsizing report and follow up on recommendations made to other agencies.

In 2016:

- Track sustainability and climate change issues relevant to historic preservation and Section 106 review and promote historic preservation in sustainability and other environmental and energy efficiency initiatives.
- Participate in the Climate Change Council co-chaired by CEQ and the White House, and cooperate with NPS on development of guidance on cultural resources for local, state, and tribal entities dealing with climate change adaptation and resilience.
- Continue to educate and advise federal agencies, communities undergoing rightsizing, and other stakeholders on the importance of incorporating historic preservation goals and strategies into community redevelopment plans.

**Promote historic preservation as a means to continue to support economic recovery and development, stimulate investment, and create jobs.**

In 2015:

- Promote historic preservation and heritage tourism components as part of the National Travel and Tourism Strategy under E.O. 13597, including soliciting agency information on heritage tourism as part of preparation for the 2015 Section 3 Report to the President under the Preserve America Executive Order (E.O. 13287).
- Expand existing information (including statistics, case studies, and examples) on the economic value of historic preservation, and determine how to make better use of the ACHP’s study *Measuring the Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation* in historic preservation policy discussions.
- Manage existing elements of the Preserve America program, especially Preserve America Communities and Stewards, and develop and provide case studies, best practices, and other helpful information about local preservation and federal assistance resources through various strategies including electronic newsletters, social media, and the ACHP Web sites.

In FY 2016:

- Act on National Travel and Tourism Strategy promotion within existing resources and partnerships, and follow up on recommendations contained in the Section 3 Report issued in February 2015.

- Continue to manage the Preserve America program and provide information through the ACHP Web sites.

**Promote historic preservation as a means of recognizing and documenting cultural diversity, and integrate different traditions and viewpoints into the national historic preservation program.**

In FY 2015:

- Pursue development of a Presidential initiative to promote the recognition and preservation of the heritage of diverse and underserved constituencies, in concert with CEQ.
- Implement selected projects to advance the goal of building a more inclusive preservation program and further engage diverse constituencies in the ACHP's work (such as follow-up to the FY 2013 and 2014 presentations to the Congressional Black Caucus on historic preservation and community development).
- Implement a multi-year partnership and outreach efforts to young people under the title of "Civil War to Civil Rights" with DOI, Department of Education, National Park Foundation, HISTORY, Rutgers University, and other partners to raise awareness of the Civil Rights Movement through memorialization and interpretation of associated historic sites.
- Publicize and support partnership efforts that expand the understanding of diverse views of places of cultural importance, and examine ways to take into account a more complete understanding of the full range of the American experience under the NHPA.
- Identify and share examples and best practices that would appeal to diverse and underserved constituencies so they can better understand and become engaged in historic preservation.
- Expand education and clarification of the economic, cultural, and other benefits of historic preservation to new audiences, using social media and the ACHP's Web site as well as more traditional methods of outreach and communication.

In FY 2016:

- Pursue projects connected to the goal of building a more inclusive preservation program to improve the consideration of the interests of diverse constituencies in the ACHP's work.
- Continue efforts to implement the "Civil War to Civil Rights" initiative.
- Increase awareness of the diversity of the American experience by working to integrate different traditions and viewpoints into the national historic preservation program.
- Provide information to diverse constituencies through the Web site or established partners, and seek out new partnerships and opportunities to reach these groups.
- Encourage federal agencies to expand their outreach to diverse communities through the Section 106 process.
- Through the use of distance learning tools and webinars, explore ways to develop and offer training to help improve the participation of diverse communities in the Section 106 process.
- Use the observance of the NHPA 50th anniversary to develop and implement an integrated communications plan with social, mobile, and traditional media outlets.

**Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Section 106 process by encouraging improved planning and consultation and by developing guidance and training.**

In FY 2015:

- Work with CEQ to educate stakeholders on the jointly-issued handbook regarding the coordination and integration of compliance with Section 106 and NEPA, and encourage federal agencies to use the principles of the handbook to support environmental reviews for key projects.

- Participate in pre-application reviews conducted by applicants for federal assistance consistent with the new pre-application process established under the Presidential Memorandum on Transmission.
- Disseminate ACHP guidance that supports the effective participation of stakeholders in the Section 106 process, with special attention to Indian tribes, including guidance on Section 106 agreement documents and electronic communication to facilitate the Section 106 process.
- Advise the Federal Communications Commission on their efforts to implement the ACHP's Program Comment regarding Positive Train Control communication facilities.
- Work as a member of the Steering Group with CEQ and the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA to implement a Unified Federal Review process for disaster recovery efforts consistent with the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013.
- Support the development and implementation of nationwide program alternatives that promote efficiencies and improve decision making for certain programs subject to Section 106 review in the FHWA, FEMA, and NRCS through partnerships with each agency that include the support of liaison positions.
- Maintain partnerships with FHWA, BLM, GSA, FEMA, NRC, and NRCS to strengthen their preservation programs and advise them on Section 106 matters.
- Develop and deliver training materials including onsite courses, webinars, on-demand courses and other training media to assist the Air Force in strengthening its compliance with Section 106 in accordance with a recent contract.
- Consult with federal agencies that permit and support broadband on the development of a program alternative to promote efficiencies and improved decision making regarding the implementation of the Administration's broadband goals.
- Advance recommendations contained in the ACHP's 2014 report to Congress on Section 106 and U.S. Postal Service disposals, focusing on guidance for more effective preservation covenants.
- Carry out the plan to improve the implementation of the Section 106 regulations developed pursuant to E.O. 13563 through the development of further procedural efficiencies and working with federal agencies and others to improve their compliance efforts with a special emphasis on Web-based applications.
- Issue guidance on the use of electronic communication in Section 106 reviews.
- Work with applicants for federal assistance or permits to educate them about the Section 106 process and improve their ability to participate in it.
- Issue and implement guidance on Section 106 agreement documents, including provisions on developing, implementing, and monitoring Memoranda of Agreement and Programmatic Agreements.
- Maintain the ACHP's onsite training program at current levels and expand the distance learning program, to add on-demand courses to the current program of webinars, and identify opportunities to market the expanded offerings to new clients including diverse constituencies, applicants for federal assistance, and the public.

In 2016:

- Continue efforts to implement the NEPA/Section 106 handbook to promote operational efficiencies in environmental reviews.
- Expand use of electronic communication to improve efficiency and transparency of Section 106 decision making.
- Provide additional training and education on the use of ACHP guidance on agreement documents.
- Expand ACHP guidance on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Section 106 process and implement the plan to improve the Section 106 process pursuant to E.O. 13563.

- Use partnerships with FHWA, BLM, GSA, NRC, and NRCS to strengthen their preservation programs and advise them on Section 106 matters, and seek additional agency partnerships when feasible.
- Support the development of federal agency program improvements and the use of program alternatives to meet the goals of the Presidential Memorandum on Infrastructure.
- Continue to expand the distance learning program to incorporate additional online, on-demand courses and webinars.
- Expand and extend current contract with Air Force to provide additional training materials and opportunities and seek opportunities with other agencies to provide targeted training using onsite and distance learning capabilities.

**Assist federal agencies in improving their stewardship, accountability, and resource management.**

In FY 2015:

- Review agency triennial progress reports detailing their efforts to identify, use, and protect historic properties in their ownership consistent with the requirements of Section 3 of E.O. 13287, and submit the 2015 Section 3 Report to the President.
- Encourage the involvement of Senior Policy Officials (SPOs) in the consideration of historic preservation issues in agency programs and policies and promote federal agency program improvements pursuant to E.O. 13287.
- Expand the working relationship with the Federal Real Property Council (FRPC) begun in 2013 to address the recommendations of the December 2012 Government Accountability Office Report on Federal Historic Buildings and ensure federal reporting on historic properties under the Federal Real Property Profile is consistent, useful, and supportive of existing goals for identifying, using, and protecting historic properties.
- Assist the NPS in its efforts to complete and issue revisions to the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for cultural resources management.
- Collaborate with NPS on the development of guidance on implementing National Register Bulletin 38, "Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties," in Section 106 reviews.

In 2016:

- Work with NPS to issue and implement the guidance on National Register Bulletin 38 and its use.
- Work with SPOs and Federal Preservation Officers (FPOs) to implement the recommendations of the ACHP's 2015 Report to the President on federal historic property stewardship.
- Continue efforts to work with the FRPC to improve the management of federal historic properties.

**Help accommodate infrastructure and energy development both on and off federal lands.**

In FY 2015:

- Seek further efficiencies and improvements to the federal environmental review and permitting process by serving on the Steering Committee established by E.O. 13604 and working to implement the Federal Plan and the ACHP's Agency Plan developed consistent with the Executive Order. Advise OMB on measures to expand the use of these efficiencies to all federal environmental reviews consistent with any newly issued Administration initiatives that maintain or expand the reach of this E.O. Support the goals and requirements of Presidential Memoranda on Infrastructure and Transmission.

- With DOI, support the work of the Energy and Historic Preservation Workgroup in addressing historic preservation challenges related to the development and transmission of renewable energy projects in the West.
- With the Department of Transportation (DOT) and other stakeholders, assess opportunities for improving the coordination of Section 106 reviews and those conducted in accordance with Section 4(f) of the DOT Act, and seek administrative solutions for these improvements.
- Serve on Rapid Response Teams managed by CEQ for transportation, renewable energy, and transmission to identify specific environmental review efficiencies in these areas.
- As a member of the workgroup established under Executive Order 13616 “Accelerating Broadband Deployment,” continue to implement the workgroup’s recommendations on appropriate steps to expedite environmental reviews for broadband projects.
- Work with the FHWA to monitor and implement a Program Comment on effects to concrete bridges subject to Section 106 review.

In FY 2016:

- Serve on the E.O. 13604 Steering Committee and participate where invited on regional teams to implement its provisions across certain regions and development sectors.
- Support implementation of Administration directives that might expand the use of efficiencies established under E.O. 13604 for all federally reviewed projects, consistent with the requirements of the Presidential Memorandum on Infrastructure.
- Facilitate the review of individual projects being tracked under E.O. 13604.
- Implement the ACHP’s agency plan under E.O. 13604, including implementing guidance on electronic communication in Section 106 reviews, guidance on agreement documents, and an applicant toolkit including expanded education and outreach to applicants.
- Continue implementing with CEQ the recommendations of the handbook on NEPA and Section 106 reviews, including onsite and online training and education for NEPA and Section 106 practitioners; state, tribal, and local governments; and industry.
- Support implementation of Administration directives that might seek further efficiencies in the review of transmission projects tracked by the Rapid Response Team on Transmission.
- Work with DOI on the impacts of energy development on historic properties through the Energy and Historic Preservation Workgroup.

**Develop and advance policy and program initiatives that support and enhance the involvement of Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations in the national historic preservation program and in the Section 106 review process.**

In FY 2015:

- Participate in the White House Council on Native American Affairs.
- Implement the ACHP’s plan to support the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, focusing on additional guidance development; participation in Department of State consultations; and reporting to State regarding the potential for the NHPA to serve as a model for the protection of sacred sites in other countries.
- Implement the Sacred Sites Action Plan with the other signatory agencies, in fulfillment of the Sacred Sites Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), focusing on the policy review, training, and public outreach tasks.
- Develop online training for federal agencies and applicants regarding early coordination with Indian tribes to facilitate better project planning and Section 106 training for Indian tribes and NHOs.
- Encourage and support improved State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)-Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) relations.

- Continue implementation of the ACHP traditional cultural landscapes initiative including the development of guidance.
- Implement ACHP tasks identified in the Northern Plains federal-tribal energy summit held in FY 2014.

In FY 2016:

- Participate in the White House Council on Native American Affairs, at least through the end of the current Administration.
- Implement the ACHP's Native American initiatives, including the plan to support the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Traditional Cultural Landscapes Action Plan, and communicate this support in appropriate forums.
- Continue to implement the Sacred Sites Action Plan with the other signatory agencies in fulfillment of the Sacred Sites Memorandum of Understanding.
- Expand online training for Indian tribes and NHOs on specific Section 106 topics and challenges.
- Host a third regional federal-tribal summit to identify and develop strategies for addressing timely Section 106 challenges.

**Improve understanding of the ACHP's mission and programs and the benefits of historic preservation through a variety of media and tools, including an enhanced Web site, social media, and print materials.**

In FY 2015:

- Expand the use of the Web site as a primary source of information for historic preservation information and as a vehicle for increased agency transparency.
- Move more information about the benefits of historic preservation online, including informational brochures, press releases, and fact sheets on the ACHP's programs.
- Provide information about Section 106 reviews in which the ACHP participates, including agreement documents it signs, to the public via social media and the ACHP Web site.
- Participate in new venues focused on priority ACHP programs, including citizen participation in Section 106 review, cultural diversity and historic preservation, and the economic impacts of preservation.
- Conduct ACHP awards programs to promote a preservation ethic among federal agencies and their partners while increasing the visibility of preservation successes.
- Upgrade the capability of ACHP Web sites and develop other online initiatives including e-newsletters and e-106 tools, to reach a wider range of constituencies and to integrate a seamless portfolio of online and offline marketing and communications strategies.
- Grow the social media program in an effort to reach out to Americans who rely more regularly on electronic communication.
- Utilize emerging online technologies connected to the ACHP Web site, such as interactive mapping, in order to improve understanding of ACHP work and advance government effectiveness.

In FY 2016:

- Monitor Web sites and social media in order to efficiently communicate information about the ACHP and the national historic preservation program.
- Expand use of the ACHP Web site as a primary source for historic preservation information and as a vehicle for increased agency transparency.
- Move more information about the benefits of historic preservation online, including informational brochures, press releases, and fact sheets on the ACHP's programs.



- Continue and enhance ACHP awards programs designed to institutionalize a preservation ethic among federal agencies, the public, and their partners while increasing the visibility of preservation successes.
- Expand outreach via social media to raise the visibility of historic preservation.
- Monitor emerging online technologies as they relate to the ACHP online presence, such as interactive mapping and online Section 106 tools in order to improve understanding of ACHP work and advance government effectiveness.
- Focus on reaching a wider range of constituencies and integrating a seamless portfolio of online and offline marketing and communications strategies.

**Develop new opportunities and highlight and share successful models for engaging youth in historic preservation.**

In FY 2015:

- Expand multi-year partnership and outreach efforts to young people by rolling out the national “Civil War to Civil Rights” initiative in conjunction with the Department of Education.
- Work with partners to support youth summits to engage the next generation of preservationists and conservationists and raise awareness about the benefits of historic preservation.
- Partner with federal agencies and other partners at select venues in order to support specific youth programs (such as the Department of Justice’s National Intertribal Youth Summit).
- Identify opportunities to participate in youth summits and similar events that help the preservation community raise awareness and become more relevant to young people.
- Increase use of the Web site and new media tools to disseminate service learning models, templates, and related youth-oriented educational content about preservation.
- Plan a youth-oriented initiative as part of the recognition of the 50th anniversary of the NHPA in 2016 that can appeal to younger and more diverse audiences.
- Support the Administration’s commitment to Native American youth by engaging tribal youth in historic preservation programs to grow education and career opportunities.

In FY 2016:

- Work with partners to create a national effort to engage young people in preservation by tying historic preservation to the overall appreciation of “Civil War to Civil Rights” places and people.
- Create a template for youth service learning projects that can be used in conjunction with partners such as the Department of Education to reach traditionally underserved youth.
- Help promote youth summit programs that can bring more awareness about historic preservation to a new generation of preservationists, with an emphasis on engaging tribal youth.
- Use emerging technologies and new media to publicize youth efforts to memorialize young people’s contribution to community history and historic preservation.
- Implement a youth-oriented initiative affiliated with the 50th anniversary of the NHPA in 2016.

**Develop, improve, and manage the ACHP’s organizational and administrative capacity.**

In FY 2015:

- Support ACHP member meetings and other activities.

- Complete the IT infrastructure improvement project to support office work and teleworking, and provide necessary support for distance learning initiatives.
- Maintain existing agency partnerships supporting liaison positions and cultivate additional ones if possible to address ACHP priority needs.
- Contract with outside vendors to provide IT system support for IT online training program and ensure effective operation of distance learning for students and instructors.
- Implement the Records Retirement Schedules.
- Carry out the agency's Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan in cooperation with CEQ and as called for by E.O. 13514, including the annual update.
- Develop an agency personnel plan for succession and partial retirements to accommodate possible senior staff retirements.

In FY 2016:

- Support ACHP member meetings and activities.
- Undertake necessary upgrades to IT infrastructure to maximize benefits from the FY 2014 IT improvement project.
- Implement Records Retirement Plan.
- Carry out the agency's Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan in cooperation with CEQ, including the annual update.
- Implement an agency personnel plan for succession and partial retirements to accommodate senior staff retirements.
- Plan for Administration transition in the second quarter of FY 2016.

## **Effects of Requested Level**

The requested level will permit the ACHP to pursue its current level of policy initiatives and program activities that advance the ACHP's mission and the purposes of the NHPA. It should generally provide sufficient resources to effectively meet the demands before the ACHP in FY 2016. The priority would be on those activities that support Administration priorities for infrastructure improvement, climate change adaptation, energy conservation, community livability, sustainable design, economic development, inclusiveness, and transparency.

**Figure 4. Expenditures by Object (in thousands of dollars)**

		FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 President's Budget	FY 2016 President's Budget	Change from FY 2015
11/12	Salary/Benefits	4,653	4,587	4,822	235
21	Travel	107	149	112	-37
22/23	Freight, Rent, Communications, Utilities	655	467	640	173
24	Printing	15	15	4	-11
25	Contract Services	1196	948	492	-456
26	Supplies	27	17	8	-9
31	Equipment	1	21	2	-19
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,654</b>	<b>6,204</b>	<b>6,080</b>	<b>-124</b>
	FTEs	36	36	36	0

**Figure 5. Members, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
(January 2015)**

**Chairman**

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA (California)

**Vice Chairman**

Vacant

**Expert Members**

Terry Guen, FASLA (Illinois)

Dorothy T. Lippert, Ph.D. (Washington, D.C.)

Lynne Sebastian, Ph.D. (New Mexico)

Robert G. Stanton (Virginia)

**General Public Members**

Teresa Isabel Leger de Fernandez (New Mexico)

Bradford J. White (Illinois)

**Native American Member**

Leonard A. Forsman (Washington)

**Governor**

Vacant

**Mayor**

Hon. Joseph P. Riley Jr.

Charleston, South Carolina

**Architect of the Capitol**

Hon. Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA

**Secretary, Department of Agriculture**

Hon. Thomas J. Vilsack

**Secretary, Department of Commerce**

Hon. Penny Pritzker

**Secretary, Department of Defense**

Hon. Charles T. "Chuck" Hagel

**Secretary, Department of Education**

Hon. Arne Duncan

**Secretary, Department of Housing and  
Urban Development**

Hon. Julián Castro

**Secretary, Department of the Interior**

Hon. Sally Jewell

**Secretary, Department of Transportation**

Hon. Anthony Foxx

**Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs**

Hon. Robert A. McDonald

**Administrator, General Services**

**Administration**

Hon. Daniel M. Tangherlini

**Chairman, National Trust for Historic  
Preservation**

Marita Rivero (Massachusetts)

**President, National Conference of State  
Historic Preservation Officers**

Elizabeth A. Hughes (Maryland)

**Observers:**

**Secretary, Department of Energy**

Hon. Ernest Moniz, Ph.D.

**Secretary, Department of Homeland Security**

Hon. Jeh Johnson

**Administrator, Environmental Protection  
Agency**

Hon. Gina McCarthy

**Chair, Council on Environmental Quality**

Michael Boots, Acting

**Chairman, National Alliance of Preservation  
Commissions**

Esther S. Hall, (North Carolina)

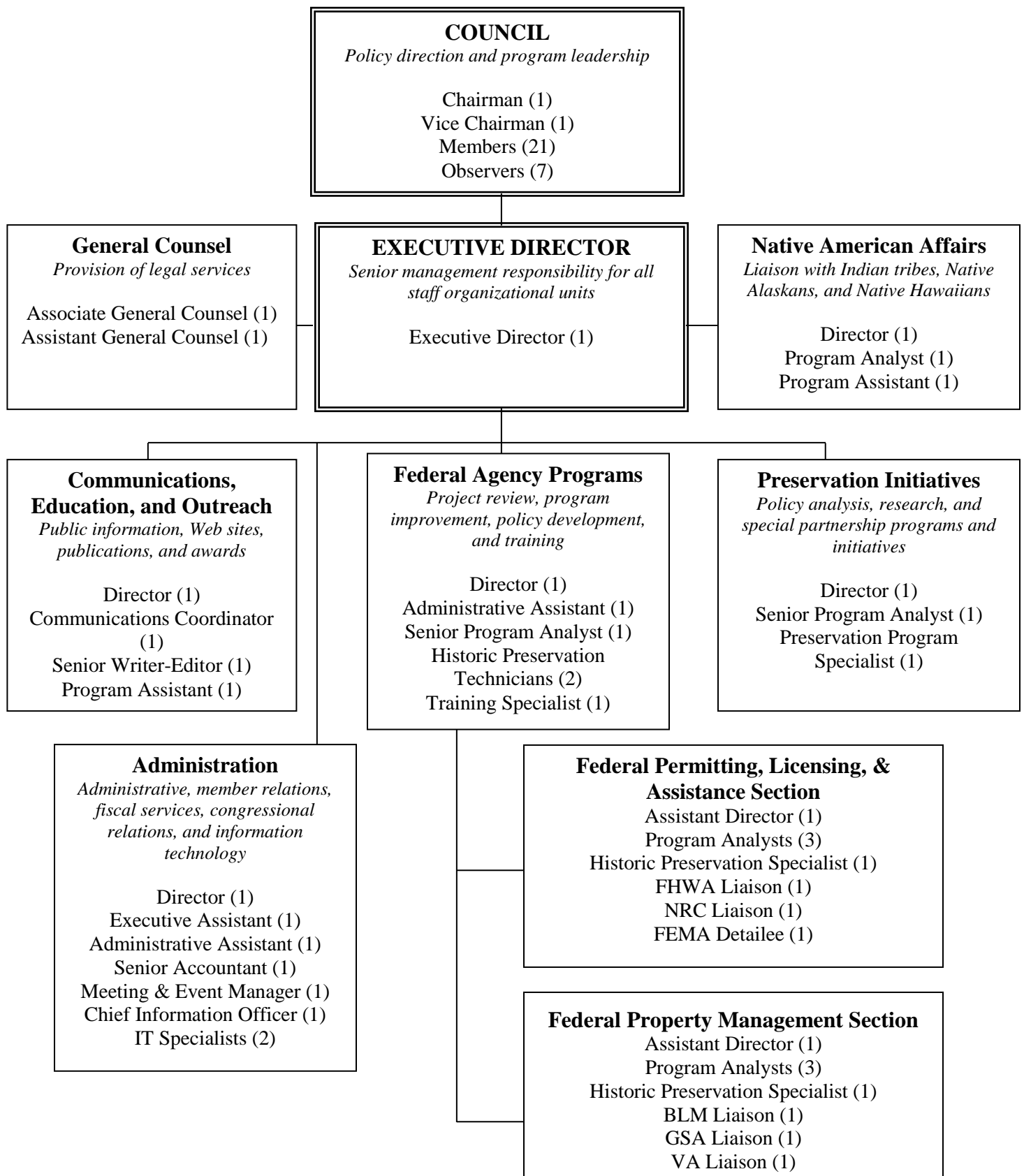
**General Chair, National Association of Tribal  
Historic Preservation Officers**

Janine (Bowe chop) Ledford (Washington)

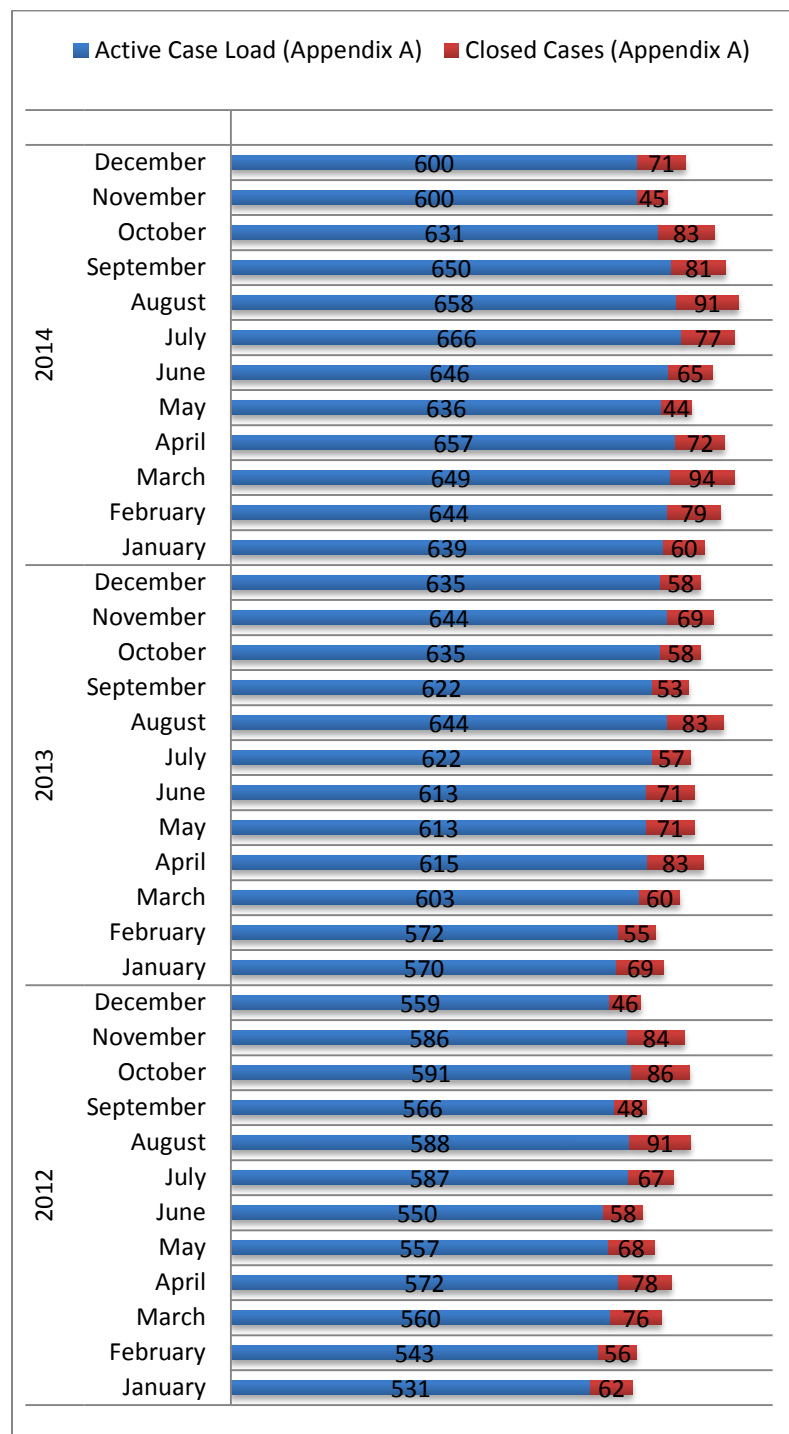
**ACHP Alumni Foundation**

Katherine Slick, President

**Figure 6. ACHP Organizational Structure (January 2015)**

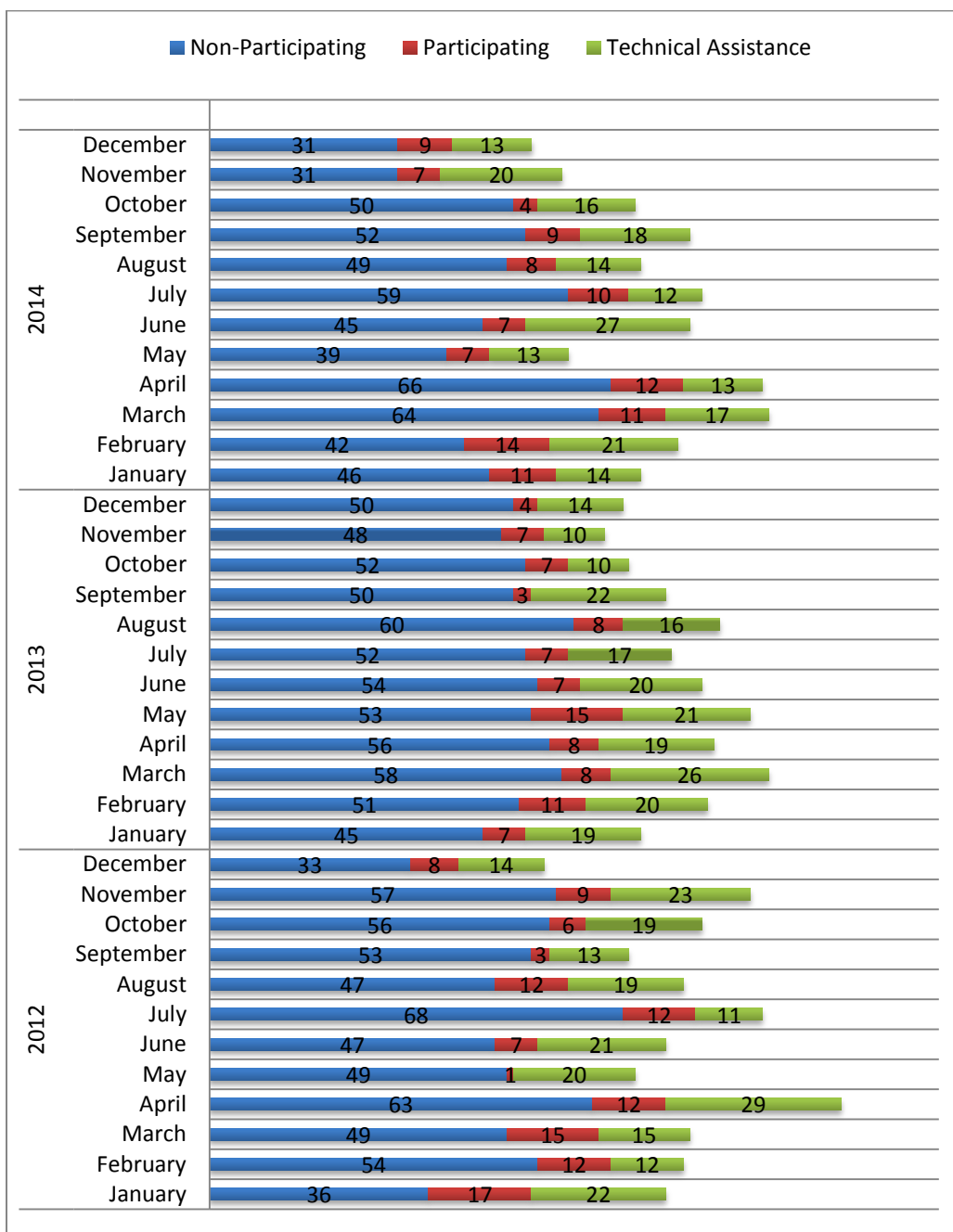


**Figure 7. Section 106 Performance Measures**



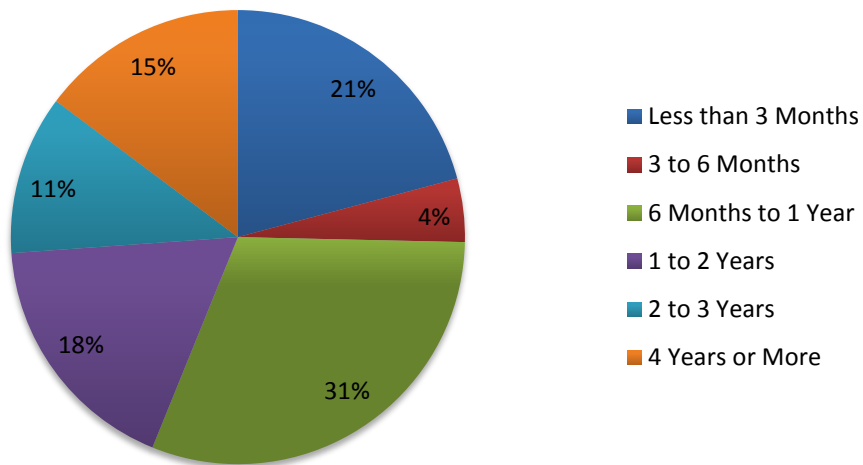
**Table A: Monthly Case Load vs. Closed Cases (January 2012-December 2014)**

This chart shows the cases federal agencies formally presented for action to the ACHP. The blue bar represents the total number of cases under active consideration by the ACHP in the month shown; the red bar represents the total number of cases closed by the ACHP in the same month.



**Table B: New Cases Each Month By Type (January 2012-December 2014)**

This chart illustrates the number of cases received by the ACHP in the month shown. Included are only those cases federal agencies formally presented for action to the ACHP. Each bar shows those where the ACHP decided it would participate and those cases where the ACHP declined to participate. Also shown are those cases not formally presented for action to the ACHP by federal agencies but where one or more stakeholders asked the ACHP for technical assistance.

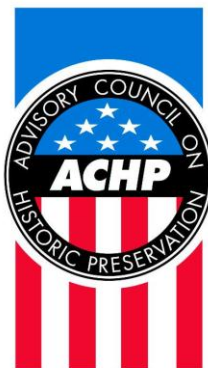


***Table C: Case Lifecycle:  
Participating Closed Cases  
(as of December 31, 2014)***

This chart shows the amount of time a case remained open after it was formally presented to the ACHP for review by federal agencies and the ACHP decided to participate.







*Preserving America's Heritage*

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

401 F Street NW, Suite 308 • Washington, DC 20001-2637  
Phone: 202-517-0200 • Fax: 202-517-6381 • [achp@achp.gov](mailto:achp@achp.gov) • [www.achp.gov](http://www.achp.gov)